

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 13, 2014

The Honorable Deborah L. James
Secretary of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Secretary James,

I am writing to highlight provisions in the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2015 concerning the Air Force's proposal to inactivate the 440th Airlift Wing at Pope Airfield. The FY15 NDAA approved by the SASC restricts the Air Force from transferring any C-130H or C-130J aircraft until 60 days after submitting a report to Congress assessing the costs and benefits of the proposed transfers. The provision also directs the Comptroller General to submit a sufficiency review of the Air Force's report. It is the committee's intent for Congress to have adequate time to review both the Air Force report and Comptroller General review before the Air Force takes any action to inactivate the 440th Airlift Wing.

The FY15 NDAA Committee Report further clarifies the committee's expectations for the Air Force. The committee expects the Air Force to act in the spirit of this provision for the rest of FY14 until enactment of the FY15 NDAA.

Inactivating the 440th Airlift Wing would adversely affect the readiness of units at Ft. Bragg, and I remain steadfast in my opposition to that proposal. I urge the Air Force to take this additional time to fully consider the impact of its proposed actions, and I look forward to reviewing the findings of the Air Force and the Comptroller General.

Sincerely,



Kay R. Hagan
United States Senator